

ASSET PROFILE

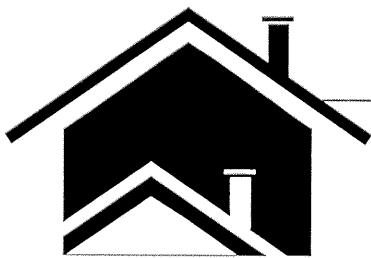
Issue Area: Youth Development

Detroit's youth are significantly challenged by social issues such as violence, crime, alcohol and substance abuse, unemployment, inadequate parental support, teen parenting and inadequate education. Mirroring the city, the issues impacting Cluster 6 neighborhoods challenge their commitment and capacity to support the varied needs of youth. Cluster 6 visioning session participants expressed concern about the lack of sufficient role models to guide youth through the challenging stages of adolescence and young adulthood. They noted the prevalence of teen pregnancy and expressed concern for the capacity of teens to meet the demands and expectations of parenting. They further noted the inadequate availability of after-school programs to help occupy youth during the period of the day when crime statistics indicate most juvenile crimes and compromising behaviors occur. In the absence of sufficient role models and prevention programs, many youth become frustrated and "hang out" in high risk situations. They may become disenfranchised from their neighborhood because of a lack of safe places within walking distance where they can meet and socialize. Accordingly, youth development is an issue of concern in the context of community building and reinvestment. Investments in the creation and enhancement of neighborhood-based youth and family support programs, summer programs, health education/services, mentoring programs and job training opportunities are critical to strengthening the capacity of youth to live healthy, safe and productive lives.

Current Youth Development Conditions

The 1990 Census revealed that 27 percent (28,898) of the Cluster's total population of 107,042 is under 18 years of age. Over one fifth of the Cluster population is comprised of youth (slightly less than the City of Detroit, 29.4 percent). School enrollment data suggest that 72.3 percent (29,396) are enrolled in elementary school.

Youth development cannot be discussed without addressing the issue of family because of the significant influence and responsibility of families for the development of youth. Based on census data many households in Cluster 6 live below the poverty level (42 percent). The median household income for Cluster 6 is \$12,191, suggesting a great need for public and low cost programs and services. Census data further indicate that there are proportionately fewer married couple families (30 percent) and a greater number of one parent families than two parent families (21 percent) compared with the city as a whole. The number of female-headed families in the Cluster stands at 35 percent, slightly more



than the city. Youth and families in Cluster 6, while classified as “at-risk” due to a number of challenging social, health, economic and educational conditions, continue to survive. Reinvestment efforts could work to create optimal youth development opportunities to ensure that a majority of youth benefit.

Youth Programs/Services

Recreation/Community Centers and Parks

Recreation plays an important role in molding some of the values that are gradually deteriorating in our society. By offering programs that are both youth-focused and family-centered, recreational facilities provide a positive and safe environment for social growth and development. These facilities are one of the Cluster's greatest community assets. They have the potential to serve as a forum for social learning and physical development for families, as well as youth.

Cluster 6 has two Detroit Recreation Centers. The Joseph Walker Williams Center located on Rosa Parks at W. Euclid and the Kronk Center located on McGraw at Junction. Additionally, the Michigan Family Independence Agency recently reopened the Dexter Elmhurst Family and Community Center for community use.

The Joseph Walker Williams Center served by the Recreation Department's north district, is one of the city's newer recreational facilities. The Center provides a wide range of youth and family activities including: swimming, dance, arts and crafts, table games, sports, and physical fitness. It also has a Teen Club for youth, 14 - 17 years of age, male mentoring for young men age, 13 - 16, and tutoring for youth age 17 and under. The Williams Center has served as the meeting place for Cluster 6. The center is widely used by youth in the surrounding neighborhoods.

The Kronk Recreation Center is served by the south district of the Detroit Recreation Department. The Center is known for its youth boxing program that has successfully trained several well known boxers. In addition to boxing, the center provides basketball, aerobics, tennis lessons, gymnastics, game room activities, and arts and crafts. These activities are for youth ages 17 and under or, ages 12 and under.



Dexter-Elmhurst Center is managed by the Michigan Family Independence Agency.

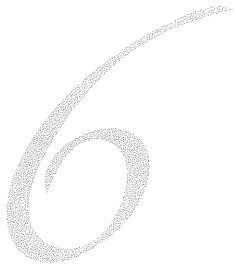
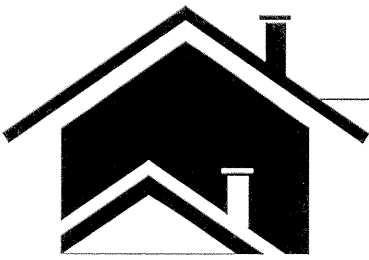
The once abandoned state facility has reopened as a multi-purpose family community center serving the Dexter/Elmhurst area. The Dexter Elmhurst Community Council, center staff and area residents are currently developing the scope of services for the center. The center is undergoing renovation of its gym and other meeting rooms to accommodate youth sports and after-school programs. Other proposed services include teen mothers programs, computer training, and entrepreneurial and youth prevention services. The center plans to begin 1998 with a full array of programs and services for the entire family.

There are numerous parks located in the Cluster and the city. The map at the end of the section provides a snapshot of the larger and smaller parks and recreation centers in the Cluster. Parks can serve as a catalyst for building key relationships around the common goal of increasing park maintenance and optimal use by youth and families, becoming “bridge builders,” connecting the local park and surrounding neighborhoods groups with public and private resources that support the park

Human Service Agencies

The United Way Community Services Tel-Help Directory is a comprehensive listing of health and human service agencies in Metropolitan Detroit. This section's brief narrative of youth serving agencies is from the directory and provides a base of knowledge about available services. The Cluster has several agencies either based in the Cluster or serving youth city-wide. They provide a range of youth development programs and services such as counseling, mentoring, mental health services, recreation, leadership development and parenting support. The listing is not meant to be exhaustive, but rather highlights key programs and services. Additional information can be obtained from the Tel-Help Directory.

Boy Scouts of America - Detroit Area Council The main office is located in Cluster 6 on W. Warren. The Council is part of a national organization that seeks to build desirable qualities of character, citizenship, and personal fitness in youth. Programs include Tiger Clubs (boys age 7); Cub Scouting (boys ages 8-10); Boy Scouts (boys ages 11-18); In School Learning for Life (co-ed grades K-12); and Exploring (male and female youth ages 14-20). Scouting groups are sponsored by schools, churches, and civic and community organizations and are led by volunteers. The services include camping, mentoring, leadership development and leisure. The Cluster has several active Boy Scout groups.



Boys and Girls Clubs of Southeastern Michigan promotes the health, social, educational, vocational, and character development of youth through a variety of programs. The Cluster has a Club located in the Lloyd H. Diehl Building on Collingwood. The Club offers sports programs, group clubs, arts and craft, cultural awareness programs, recreation and tutoring.

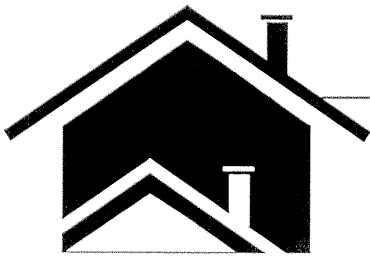
Girl Scouts of the U.S.A. - Michigan Metro Councils mission is to make significant positive impact on the lives of girls emphasizing critical life skills, contemporary issues, girl planning and decision making, pluralism, community service, self esteem, career and law, guided by well-trained volunteers. The Council also provides camping programs through four camps. The Cluster has several active troops.

Lula Belle Stewart Center promotes parenting skills and personal development of young parents and works to prevent child abuse and neglect and delay early sexual involvement. The Center, located in the Cluster on Webb serves pregnant adolescents and adolescent parents, age 21 and under and their families. Their services include adoption; peer counseling; parent support/education and residential placement (Mother and Infant House-MAI).

The Salvation Army- Eastern Michigan Division is an international religious and charitable organization providing a wide range of social services. The Cluster is home to the Detroit Temple Corps Community Center located on Dundee.

Diversified Youth Services provides comprehensive services to youth who have experienced multiple problems affecting their social, emotional, behavioral and/or educational functioning and have not been helped by traditional agencies. The agency is located in the Cluster on Dexter at Fenkell. Diversified services are case management, counseling for children and adolescents, group counseling for youth and mental health treatment (outpatient).

New Center Community Mental Health is a comprehensive community mental health center providing a wide range of mental health services. The center is located in the Cluster on Dexter at W. Grand Blvd. New Center provides mental health treatment and prevention programs for children and adolescents.



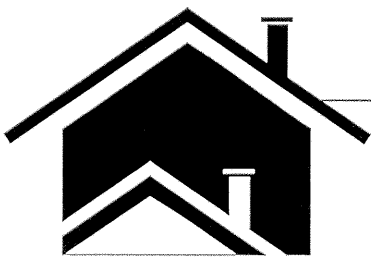
Zora Stork's Nest Foundation (Stork's Nest) mission is to increase the number of healthy live births in the city of Detroit; to provide training and counseling services to child care providers, expectant women and new mothers; to provide Layette items for the newborn. Stork's Nest serves mothers of all ages The Foundation is located in the Cluster on Dexter.

Health Services

The Cluster recommendations for youth development reflected concern not only for the general well-being of Cluster youth, but for their health status, specifically. The recommendations identified the need for parenting classes and support groups to ensure that teen parents have the information, skills and support necessary to facilitate the positive growth and development of their children; school/community partnerships to identify and support youth with special needs and drug free zones in places other than schools particularly those frequented by youth.

City of Detroit Health Department offers the following health programs for youth:

- Adolescent Sexuality Initiative Project provides health education and counseling in specific Detroit public schools aimed at Pregnancy Prevention Community Workshops.
- Teen Stop Program provides adolescent services in clinics located in the south-west and northwest areas.
- Social Hygiene Clinic provides diagnosis, treatment, and control of sexually transmitted diseases.
- Village Health Workers provide health education and parenting classes for all parents.
- American Stop Smoking Intervention Study promotes tobacco control as a health issue, advocates elimination of environmental tobacco smoke and tobacco advertising and promotion, and provides education and cessation resources to help smokers to quit and to stop youth from starting to smoke.



- Summer Lunch Program provides nutritional lunches to low-income youth during the summer months.
- Central Diagnostic and Referral Service provides prevention, diagnostic, and referral services for substance abusers and their families.

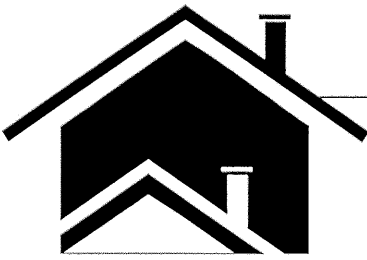
Henry Ford Hospital has made a significant commitment to adolescent health in the Cluster. In 1991, the hospital, in partnership with the W.K. Kellogg Foundation and the Detroit Public Schools, opened the first Detroit Public School middle school Teen Health Clinic in Hutchins Middle School. The center is staffed with two nurses, a social worker and an ombudsman. It provides Hutchins students with on-site health maintenance, as well as referrals to Henry Ford Hospital for medical care. The hospital is also operating a teen parenting program through the health clinic.

Given the hospital's commitment to adolescent health and the Health Department's location in the Cluster, both serve as valuable assets to youth development and potential partners for carrying out the health specific recommendations. The Teen Health Clinic has an advisory council of community and organization representatives who could assist with the implementation of these recommendations.

Neighborhood Associations

A review of the Organization Profile section of this report indicates that less than half of the Cluster's neighborhood associations work with youth. A suggested strategy to encourage greater involvement is the facilitation of partnerships between neighborhood associations and recreation centers, who would collaborate to plan activities and programs that utilize their collective resources as partners in youth development. Conversely, the recreation centers could extend their services beyond the facility and spearhead this effort, as well as support activities sponsored by neighborhood groups. Based on information listed in the *Comerica Neighborhood Handbook*, seven of the 18 neighborhood associations, businesses and housing groups include activities for youth in their program descriptions.

- Arcadia Park Association
- Detroit Association of Black Organizations
- Northwestern Goldberg Community Improvement Association
- Petoskey Advisory Council



- Save Our Sons and Daughters (SOSAD)
- Redeemer Community Development Corporation
- LDLO Block Club Association
- Griffin Park/Piston Palace Foundation

Job Training and Placement

Two Detroit Public Schools, Northwestern and Central High Schools, offer career and technical education courses leading to job training and placement. Both High Schools provide the following courses:

Marketing Education

- Marketing
- Entrepreneurship

Life Management Education

- Parenthood Education
- Essential Health and Living
- Family Living
- Nutrition Education
- Balancing Work and Family

Business Services and Technology

- Core
- Accounting/Financial Support
- Business Services and Technology Combination
- Business Education Co-op
- Marketing Co-op